NIAGARA NEWS

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WEATHER
Sunny, cloudy intervals

Vol. 18, No. 1
Oct. 2, 1987
12 pages

NIAGARA COLLEGE of Applied Arts and Technology WELLAND CAMPUS LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

Director of Computer Services Louise Bardswich explains some of the aspects of the computers to delegation members Wang Hao, Shi Hanying, second from right, Xin Wen, and interpreter Qian Jin, as part of their tour of the college.
Photo by Don Wilsack

People complain about littering

By HELEN DOAN
Staff Writer

Three students have been hired after college officials received a complaint from a First Avenue resident about on-going littering in the vicinity of parking lot E. Also, six garbage containers are in place on campus to combat the problem.

"While the weather is nice, a lot of people sit in their cars and eat," Ed Krikorian, manager of property and plant, said. Then they dump their garbage — and sometimes empty car ashtrays — onto school property. Wrappers and containers from fast food restaurants account for much of the litter.

"They wouldn't do it at home and they shouldn't do it here," Jack Spittle, building operations supervisor, said.

PAY STUDENTS

Until the problem is reasonably well in hand, Mr. Spittle said three students will be paid to pick up litter after hours and Saturdays. Although he did not disclose how much this would cost, he felt it is a cost that should not have to be borne by the college.

"The money could be better spent on educational facilities or educational teaching aids," he said.

Mr. Spittle hopes that once people are made aware of the problem, they will exercise more consideration by placing their garbage in appropriate containers.

Mr. Krikorian said six 45-gallon garbage containers are in the process of being located at various sites on campus — mainly near walkways and that parking lot E will be the first area to get them. The purchase order was placed during the summer, shipment delayed due to a strike, now over, by supplier employees.

In the past there have beer problems with garbage containers being knocked over at night or stolen, so the new containers will be chained or weighed down, Mr. Krikorian said.

ON-GOING PROBLEM

First avenue residents say the littering is an on-going problem. The First Avenue resident who lodged the complaint and wishes to remain unnamed said he also complained last year "but it doesn't seem to have helped."

He said he has visited several other colleges and "they seem to have more pride in their appearance than Niagara."

"Welland should be able to feel proud of the college," he said.

Another resident, who wished to remain unnamed, said: "I've lived here four years and there hasn't been any difference. When the weather clears, you can't see the ground for seagulls eating the garbage."

Sylvia Hallett has lived on First Avenue for the past six years and said the littering has been "steady."

"The litter blows down the driveway and into my backyard. The flowerbeds are full of wrappers," she said. She has never lodged a complaint because she felt not much could be done to correct the problem.

She said the field across the road from her house is thick with seagulls. "Seagulls are the messiest things — the driveway and the car look like they've been hit by white paint."

Another resident, Kathy Lambert, felt that if the parents of college students were the ones who had to pick up the garbage, the students "would be more considerate."

"It absolutely comes down to respect," Mr. Spittle said. He said, "Familiarity breeds contempt — people see the Don't Litter signs, but disregard them."

Chinese delegation on educational visit

By DONALD WILSACK
Staff Writer

Hopes for continued exchanges and success were expressed when a delegation from China visited Niagara College to learn about management education and administrative methods used at Canadian community colleges.

"I think we will have more exchanges in the future, and I wish for greater success in the future," Wang Hao, director of the Bureau of Economics Cadre Education, State Economic Commission said through an interpreter when the five-man delegation visited the college Sept. 18.

The visit to Niagara focused on the administration with explanations of the college's governing structures, how it is organized and continuing education services.

It was Mr. Wang's second visit to Niagara; his first was in 1983. Mr. Wang is responsible for 102 management schools throughout China.

"My first visit was very short but I made my colleagues aware," Mr. Wang said. "They are very interested in what I had seen."

GOOD MODEL

Harold Goldin, a member of the delegation and senior project officer at the Association of Canadian Community Colleges field office at Chengdu, Sichuan province, said the Chinese think the community college rather than the university style is a good model for practical education.

Mr. Wang said the practical side of education is very important and he would try to make changes in China.

Mr. Goldin said 10 of the schools Mr. Wang is responsible for are management training centres and are vehicles for international co-operation. He said Niagara was the first college visited in 1983 when Canada and China became involved in exchanges.

A tour of the college followed the agenda which was held in the board room in Hennepin Hall. Mr. Wang said he was impressed with the library, and the delegation showed great interest in other facilities around the college.

After handshakes and best wishes, the delegation left for a tour of Niagara Falls from where they visited other community colleges in Toronto, Ottawa and Vancouver.

Faculty votes down regents' contract

Niagara faculty turned down the Council of Regents' contract offer Tuesday with a 77.3 per cent vote against.

A faculty union spokesman said the vote against across the province was about 80 per cent.

Earlier, Niagara support staff voted about 90 per cent in favor of a new two-year contract.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union spokesman said the faculty rejection means the issue will go back to the bargaining table.

Registration down by 27

Niagara College marked its 20th year with a post secondary enrolment of 3,349 students, only slightly lower than the 3,376 students registered in 1986.

Technology programs have dropped in popularity, John Parrett, registrar, said; applied arts programs remain "high demand programs."

"We have certainly exceeded our expectations for this year and although we are down 27 students, we're glad it's only 27." Mr. Parrett said.

Registration numbers for continuing education courses is up 624 from last year with a total of 6,378 enrolled.

The first year of operation for the college was in 1967 when 468 students were enrolled. Mr. Parrett said registration numbers peaked in 1984 with 3,600 students, and a downward trend has been evident ever since.

The tickets are coming

Parking tickets are being issued to illegally parked cars in the Voyageur Wing — as of yesterday, Jack Spittle, plant and property manager, said. And towing may begin next week.

"People parking in that area are doing so in a hazardous manner that is going to cause accidents," Mr. Spittle said. Parking lot A is empty and there is no reason they cannot park there."

If parking violations continue, Mr. Spittle will start having the cars towed away starting on Monday or Tuesday of next week. "If students want to continue doing it they will have to pay the price." Mr. Spittle said he does not like to tow the cars but said the parking cannot continue as it is.

One of the hazards is pedestrians and cars, and they don't mix, Mr. Spittle said. "We have people parking in pedestrian walking areas. People are just too lazy to walk."

INSIDE THE NEWS

Page 4 — Editorials
Where were you when the lights went out?
AIDS — Concern hits home
Page 7
Paramount comes to Niagara-on-the-Lake
Page 11
Volleyball new sports focus

Honored for service

These Niagara employees received plaques honoring their 20 years service to the college at the Welcome Back breakfast. Front row, left to right: David Abraham, Edward Krikorian, Mary Petruzella, Mary Hornak, Barbara Fonfara, Marcelle Pittana, Anthony Goss. Back row, left to right: John Birney, Gino Cieri, Lawrence Cote, Albert Mills, Thomas Strawford, William Walker, James Nicholas. Missing when the picture was taken: Ivar Noren and Edward Zanetti.

College vocational program improves skills, self-confidence

By ELIZABETH FINLEY
Staff Writer

It's 11:20 a.m. in room S102A, and the teacher is a few minutes late. The students wait patiently, chatting amongst themselves. Suddenly the door flies open and their English teacher hurries into the classroom. He offers the students both an apology and explanation for his tardiness, but it interuppted. "Quick," someone calls out, "pass me a violin."

Such occurences are ordinary, but S102A is not an ordinary classroom. It houses those students enrolled in Niagara's College Vocational program. New this year, the program is designed for students whose needs may exceed scholastic training.

The program — 16 students are enrolled this term — is for graduates of secondary schools whose credits include basic or modified basic courses, Harriet Davidson, who is co-ordinating the program, said. As described in the program description, it is designed to provide students with an opportunity to further their skills, explore career opportunities, and promote the self-confidence needed to succeed in day-to-day living.

BOTH NEEDS, INTERESTS

Tom Busnarda, a teacher in the program, said the courses are geared toward both individual needs and interests of the students.

"In some ways, this will reflect the traditional college program, but it is unique in terms of curriculum design, teaching style, etc., so it will be different from the traditional college learning enviroment," he said.

The course curriculum includes courses in English, math, computers, and work survival. Work placement is also included, and students will occupy positions in the college's library, bookstore, cafeteria and plant and property department.

"Our objectives are to help each student set realistic work goals, and to give (them) the opportunity to try that out in work placement," Mrs. Davidson said.

Lucile Roy, a student in the program, is pleased to be setting an example for future vocational students. "We will be (showing) people in the same boat as us that there's a way open," she said.

GOALS MAY CHANGE

Miss Roy, who previously tried unsuccessfully to enter the college, points out that future job placement will depend on classroom work. "Our goals may change depending on what our capabilities are."

Fellow student Pete Simmonds hopes to get an apprenticeship in an autobody shop after graduation, but supports the idea that students may try two or three different professions before they choose what is best for them.

"I might go into welding which has to do with that," Mr. Simmonds said.

At the end of the two-year program, students will decide whether to enter the work force or pursue further academic training.

Class is almost over. The English teacher is busy reading aloud a Niagara College brochure, but pauses to play up the formality of the manuscript. "Academic endeavors," he jokes. "Isn't it nice to know you have 'academic endeavors'?" A small murmur of laughter follows. Obviously, it is.

Chinese visitor learns how college is run

To get a sense of how people in Canada are and to learn some workable and practical knowledge of how college administration works are the goals of Guang Yu Chen, a college chairperson here on exchange from China.

Mr. Chen will gain this through working with and learning from Niagara College's administration. Niagara is only one of the many colleges and universities he will visit during his year-long stay in Canada.

Mr. Chen is in Welland for seven weeks to learn about the methods the college uses to operate, organize and plan its events and curriculum.

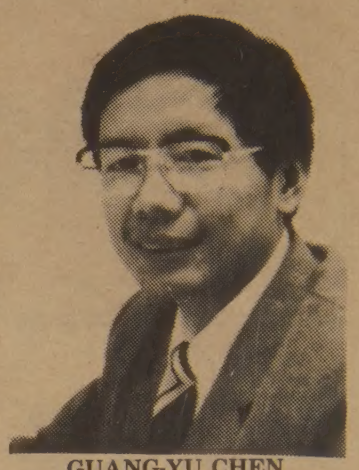
He is here through the funding of the Canadian International Development Agency. CIDA gives people in all educational fields a "chance for mutual enrichment," said Candace Paris, a manager for continuing education services. There is also an "interest to share ideas about culture."

Mrs. Paris wrote to the Canadian Association of Adult Education when she read about the upcoming exchange in its journal. She inquired about having someone placed at Niagara. The association in turn got in touch with the college and approved the idea.

Mr. Chen is helping with various projects. He attends administrative meetings and felt "honored" to be invited to the Sept. 24 Board of Governors meeting.

It is Mr. Chen's first trip abroad and he "is enjoying it very much." This trip is allowing him to get a foreigner's perspective on many things, including Canadian views on China. He finds a big difference between cultures; one of the greatest impressions made upon him is how few people there are in a country so large.

Mr. Chen will apply the ideas he learns here to his job in China. "Actually, the problems you face here are exactly what we face," he said.



GUANG-YU CHEN

A rigorous procedure is gone through to choose the CIDA participants. Applicants must be educated at the university level and should be in the field of education. They must then pass exams set by the Canadian government and have a good knowledge of the English language.

They may enrol in a language course at the language training centre in Beijing where the testing is held. "The centre is quite helpful and not only offers language training, but information on things like culture and even the weather," Mr. Chen said.

He is among the first group sponsored by CIDA to visit Canada. Four others in his group specialize in the fields of comparative education, educational psychology, educational technology and evaluation education.

"The program is positive and promising but has to play a wider role" and include other professions, Mr. Chen said. He is "glad to be involved in many things here and is grateful for all (the) chances the college's continuing education has offered."

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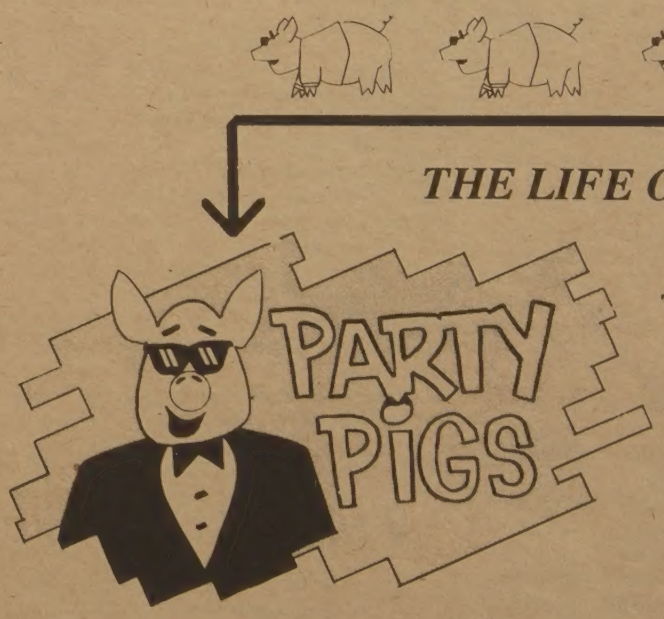

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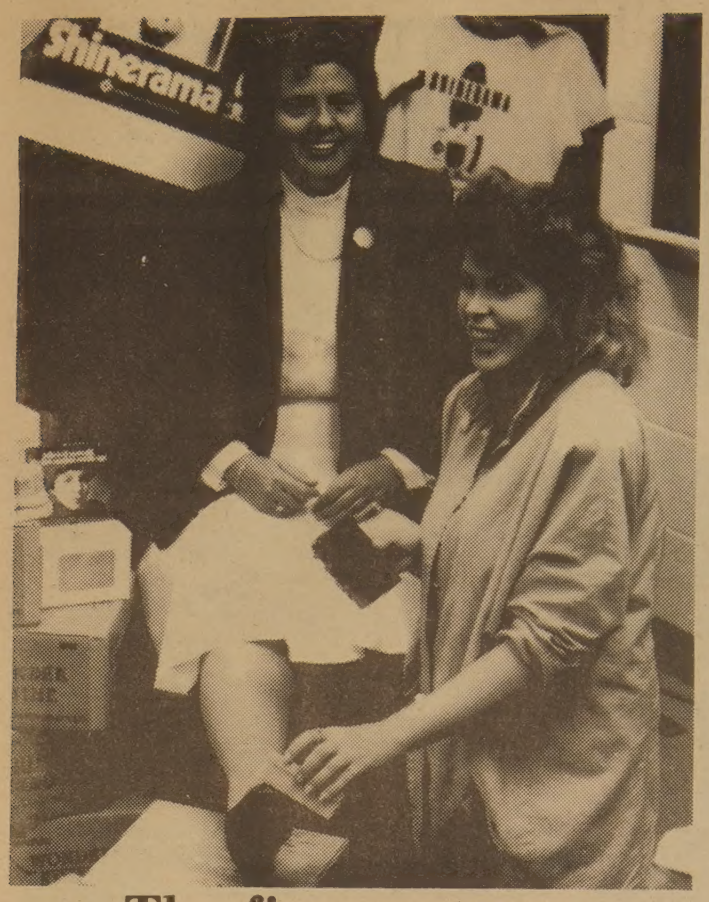
Page 3



The first customer

External affairs vice president Barb Morrison gives college president Jackie Robarts the first shoeshine of this year's Shinerama. Proceeds of the event go toward fighting Cystic Fibrosis. Photo by Jack Britt

Shinerama successful despite poor weather

Rain dampened the fifth annual Shinerama as Niagara College students attempted to raise $5,000 for Cystic Fibrosis Friday, Sept. 18.

Donations collected by about 30 students at various locations in Welland, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls — plus a pub at the Aquaduck Sept. 16 — raised about $2,000.

This is the fourth year the college has participated in the event. About 100 colleges and universities across Canada take part, Barb Morrison, vice-president of external affairs and Shinerama organizer, said.

A party was held for the volunteers afterwards at the Aquaduck with free beer and a buffet supper. Lunch was also provided for the volunteers free of charge by the Cystic Fibrosis society.

Cystic Fibrosis affects the lungs and digestive system of children. It is an incurable, hereditary disease and is the second highest children's killer; the first is cancer.

A cheque will be mailed to the Cystic Fibrosis society in Toronto.

Almost $1,600 was raised through donations while the pub brought in the remaining $400. Last year's Shinerama brought in $5,000.

Rain probably scared a lot of people away, Barb said, even though there were drivers available to take them to the various malls, hospitals, police stations and downtown areas.

Volunteers at the Seaway Mall in Welland gave away balloons to children. Most of the money received was from direct donations and volunteers didn't have to shine many shoes, Lynn Lachance and Nicky Laprise said. Both volunteers are students in the bilingual secretary program.

Hospitality Centre scheduled to open as early as Sept.'89

By CINDY LOGAN
Staff Writer

The architect or firm will be named within the next month to design and build a Niagara College Hospitality Centre in Niagara Falls — the college was awarded a $6 million grant for the new building.

I'm very pleased we could get a new building," Jacqueline Robarts, college president, said. "Having a new building means we can build (to) the needs of programs rather than just make do."

Hans van der Slagt, dean of business, hopes ground breaking for the new centre will be in March as soon as the frost is out of the ground. The centre, which will be on Dunn Street, should open for students in September 1989.

Niagara College has been involved in providing training in the hospitality industry virtually since the college started. "It has been a traditional thing with us," Mr. van der Slagt said. "Although we've been in the business for a long time, we've never had a facility designed for that purpose."

Some people had supported the conversion of an existing building — Pyramid Place — , but subsequently, many people involved felt a new centre would be better all around. Vince Derrio, Minister of Natural Resources and Energy was instrumental in getting that message to the ministry and eventually finding the money to build a new building rather than convert the existing building.

TO PLAN

"The processes that we're going to use to design and build this centre are not entirely clear," Mr. van der Slagt said.

"At this stage we have a planning committee that has been established which will have its first meeting quite soon."

The planning committee will have the task of deciding just how to go about designing and building a centre. A design committee will report to it. This committee will be essentially the staff who will be working in the centre.

The design committee will be working on specifics of where the facilities should be located, what should be in them and how they relate to one another.

STAFF IMPORTANT

"It's kind of important to me, anyway, that the staff and the operators — both of whom will be very much affected by the centre — have a lot of input into the design of it, ideas on how the centre can be most useful," Mr. van der Slagt said.

Programs at the centre will be the hotel and restaurant administration; two tourism programs — English and bilingual; cook apprentice, both advanced and basic; and two food preparation programs; food and beverage.

With the exception of tourism, all the training programs are in facilities not designed for the purpose they are being used for. The training programs now in three locations — Niagara Falls, Welland and St. Catharines — will be brought together and account for about 350 full time students.

In addition, the college already does a great deal of training for employers — part time, sometimes one time highly specific training. This would also be based in the Hospitality Centre as it relates to the hospitality industry Mr. van der Slagt said.

"We would start with this very large base and hopefully move on to other kinds of related programs.

BEGAN IN 1985

Activities for the centre began in earnest early in 1985 when Mr. van der Slagt and staff looked at what they were doing and what they wanted to be doing. Ultimately, as a group they approached the Board of Governors and said it was time the college had a proper tourism/hospitality facility of some sort.

The board agreed. They also agreed to have a group of consultants come in to work with the staff to see what was happening in the field of hospitality, how the training was received, and how they felt about Niagara College. The results were the recommendation that a training centre be established by the college in Niagara Falls and that the centre work closely with the operators in the hospitality field to provide work training.

By working with the operators, there is interaction in sharing, with the students and staff using the operators' facilities to help in the training, "as we do now in our co-op program and work experience," Mr. van der Slagt said.

Prevention

Condoms in college

Condom dispensers will be placed in some men's and women's washrooms in connection with an AIDS educational program that is being set up within the college.

The Student Administrative Council will be working with Bette Ferguson, director of Student Services,, to present educational and informative seminars. Mrs. Ferguson hopes they will be held at all campuses.

Condoms will cost about 75 cents to $1, Jack Spittle, manager of plant and property, said. He is unsure of the date they will be installed.

Mrs. Ferguson will meet Monday with regional health officials to plan the programs.

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is a fatal disease that attacks the immune system. It can be transmitted through sexual contact, blood transfusions and shared needles.

Ten million people across the world are infected with the disease, according to international authorities.

Toronto is the AIDS capital of Canada with 217 cases of the 947 cases reported throughout the country, a Toronto Board of Health report last March 27 said. Four hundred and eighty-seven of them have died.

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PARTICIPACTION

Reserve fund grows due to budget cuts

There is $724,871 in Niagara College's reserves fund, Gary LaRose, executive director of administrative services, said.

Expenditures were less than revenue, allowing $256,301 to be added to an existing reserve fund of $468,570 which the college had last April when a 1987-88 balanced budget was approved by the board of Governors.

"As a result of good management, cutbacks, and grants we are expecting from the ministry, we were able to put $256,301 back into reserves," Jaqueline Robarts, college president, said.

Miss. Robarts said all programs last year were asked to look at ways of reducing costs. Cutbacks in many departments helped towards creating a balanced budget.

The chemical technician and chemical technologist programs were suspended for one year. They were high cost programs with only a few applicants, Miss. Robarts said.

The programs still have second and third-year students enrolled.

"Teachers in the future will be looking at ways to attract students back into the two programs," she said.

"We won't know till next month whether we will have a balance next March," Miss. Robarts said. Between now and then Mr. LaRose will be looking at the various cuts and changes that have been made.

Cash award for Niagara

The manufacturing, mechanical, construction division was given two cash awards in June by the Education Foundation — "the highest amount of any institution in North America," George Rowbottom, division chairman, said.

The first award for $25,000 helped to pay for a $60,000 robot. The second award for $3,200 helped buy computer-aided grafting software.

Both awards were sponsored by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and its contributing companies.

We were the only Canadian college or university to get both awards," Mr. Rowbottom said.

Local woman still missing

Niagara College has printed and circulated more than 500 posters in an effort to locate a missing 19-year-old Welland woman.

Hugo Bessems, student liaison officer, had the posters printed up, and students have volunteered to put the posters up throughout the college.

Paula Lynn Deschamps was last seen early the morning of Sept. 17 at her Wallace Street apartment by her brother. If anyone has any information as to the whereabouts of Paula, please contact Sgt. Robert Sauder at the Niagara Regional Police Office at 735-7811

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Left in the dark

Imagine yourself in familiar surroundings and suddenly the lights go out. You know where everything is, yet still you stumble around. If only you had a flashlight!

Just a few weeks ago, there was a power failure and many found themselves in unfamiliar surroundings — the college washroom. Which way does the lock on the stall door turn?

Once you stumble out of the stall and are trying to locate your books among the bathroom basins, you think "How do I know someone isn't hiding in here — waiting?" — but that's just paranoia.

As you find your way to the door, you bump into the wall instead. You're getting pretty annoyed with yourself but it's kind of funny too.

Now imagine yourself in a wheelchair. It's not so easy or so funny any more to try and see what you're doing or able to do, is it?

There are emergency lights throughtout the college which come on when needed, but the washrooms need at least minimal lighting in these situations.

It was unfortunate that this was not thought of when the college was built and the other emergency lights were installed. It is now time to re-evaluate this situation and realize that something should be done about this.

Either emergency lights should be put in or at least a flashlight, one that glows in the dark. **Wendy Kudeba**

AIDS awareness

Recently a friend of a friend died of AIDS. Something that has been written, focused and debated on finally dealt the unanticipated blow — death. What was once considered an undignified way to die no longer appreared shameful, only very, very sad.

The terror of AIDS lies in the numerous uncertainties, and the result has taken its toll on the world's consciousness. A once unknown disease has reached a level of both moral and political consideration, and there has been nothing we could do to stop it.

Niagara is handling this issue in a manner that demonstrates both concern and responsibility. An AIDS education program is being organized including two members of SAC, to broaden student awareness and help clear up the myths surrounding the disease.

They will bring in guest speakers and have an AIDS awareness week. They are also having condom dispensers installed in some men's and women's washrooms.

In a society in which many will shun such a precautionary measure, their unprecedented actions are commendable.

Our best weapon against AIDS is responsibility. Responsibility for ourselves and those already afflicted. It is a responsibility that many have not yet realized. At least not until the first friend of a friend dies. **Elizabeth Finley**

Niagara's parking dilemma

People parking illegally on campus grounds will soon pay the price as parking tickets are being issued to the violators as of yesterday. If this doesn't work, towing the cars will be the next step. People parking on campus are blocking transit access ways, pedestrian walk areas and taking the spaces designated for the handicapped. Last year because of the same problems cars were towed away and thwarted the problem for the remainder of the year. Photo by Rob Strohm

Mature students

English improvements at St. Catharines campus

By SHARON ANDRES
Staff Writer

The intense English program in the Ontario Basic Skills program at the St. Catharines campus improves student skills at such a rate that "some grade level scores can jump four or five grade levels," Sue Arnedt, program manager, said.

Teachers constantly time the students' readings and every six weeks a Nelson-Denny Readng Test is assigned. This is the entry test for mature students into post-secondary institutions.

The OBS program, started last fall, focuses on literacy and numeracy training for people over 25 who have been educationally disadvantaged. It provides the opportunity for students to advance into studies at college or university levels.

Unique

Writing skills and comprehending narration at a reasonable speed are two of the points stressed in this English program. The teaching procedure is distinct to the program; "Lou Orr (teacher) and I believed an English program with advanced levels was needed because many students appeared to experience difficulty" with the traditional self-study format, Ms. Arnedt said.

Twelve OBS graduates are pursuing post-secondary education at Niagara College.

These students were "grateful because they felt challenged and prepared," Mrs. Orr said. "Education is appreciated more later in life and that's why so many people are going back."

Mrs. Orr designed the new English program with four levels of difficulty ranging from Grades 1 to 10 and an advanced level for Grades 11 and 12. It is a heavily concentrated program with 10 hours of English a week for 20 to 25 weeks.

Study tools

Students at the advanced English level study basic grammar, novels and short stories. Practical and innovative texts are used rather than the usual high school books because "Dick and Jane readers won't help these adults" who must be 25 or older, Ms. Arnedt said.

The Stone Angel, by Margaret Laurence, was chosen because of its Canadian content and its "livable characters," Mrs. Orr said. The student body in this course is primarily made up of mature females and when they can relate to the characters or plot of a novel, the reading is faster and the comprehension easier.

Pygmalion, a play by George Bernard Shaw, is easier to understand with audiovisual aid. Last year's students listened to albums of the play and saw the production of Major Barbara at the Shaw Festival.

An American text called Best Short Stories includes authors such as Updike, Capote and Faulkner and was chosen for its strong "thinking themes," Mrs. Orr said. The study of short stories is important because the focus is on specific literary points, Ms. Arnedt said.

Computers are integrated with each level of English and are the format for the major research paper which signals the end of the course. The topic for this 10 to 12-page essay is of the student's choice but must include footnotes and a bibliography. "The quality of these papers was really quite outstanding," Ms. Arnedt said.

Ministries

The OBS program was formed by the ministries of Citizenship and Culture, Education and Skills Development.

About 20 students are in the advanced English with 70 in the other levels. OBS has a continuous intake format which allows students to start and finish nearly any time independent of classmates' progress.

Mrs. Orr considers her job a teacher's haven because there are no discipline problems and the students are very appreciative of the teachers' help.

OBS is planning a new program called OBS in the Workplace. This is intended to be on-the-job training with the employer, rather than community colleges, as the sponsor.

Teacher Bert Mills watches technician George Duczmal as he works on one of the computers used by students in the technology courses.
Photo by Margaret Bartlett

Emphasis on Professionalism

When Maggie Lawson speaks, interior design students listen. Profesionalism in handling oneself and the client was the message when Mrs. Lawson, owner and head designer at Brown's Interiors of St. Catharines, spoke in the Secord Room Sept. 22.

One of the first things a designer learns is, "You have to do as you're told. You have to follow the style of the studio." Mrs. Lawson explained the workings of a design studio, carefully marking her position at the top.

There are more than a dozen interior design magazines with plans for the do-it-yourself decorators. "Why pay us when you can do it yourself?....Professionalism," Mrs. Lawson said. "Even if it's just curtains for a garage, make an appointment, write it down and get there five minutes early."

"What's really important here is that 13 people are supposed to make me look wonderful," she said. A design studio cannot afford careless mistakes. "The cost of draperies may be more than what I pay them (the designer) in salary. You have to learn to measure."

Mrs. Lawson enunciated each word carefully, and slapped her palm for emphasis. "The first time out is scary." The novice designer spends the first three or four months going out with the various installers and learning to measure, sort of a probationary period.

Dressing for success is another must. A designer must convey the atmosphere of the studio. "It instils confidnence in the client. People want to see who they're spending $15,000 or $20,000 on," Mrs. Lawson said. "Not even the installers wear jeans."

A designer must also learn to move well. Carrying a portfolio through doors can become a wrestling match. "Practise, learn to walk with a portfolio, look good carrying it."

An interior designer is mostly a salesperson, Mrs. Lawson said. Honesty is the best policy in handling a client. "Admit you don't know because they will believe you when you say you do know." Designers must make clients think that they are really interested in them, but she warned against becoming too friendly.

"When you're on a first name basis, professionalism goes out the window. Give them the courtesy of letting them be your client."

High-tech teaching brings award to two

An award for innovative teaching practices was given to George Duczmal and Bert Mills in June by the Association of Canadian Community Colleges.

The award was given for their Piconet Project, a network of portable lap top computers. Students in mechanical engineering technology and manufacturing technology buy their own computers to make the programs computer-integrated.

"It's really a recognition of a great collaborative team effort within the mechanical technology department," Mr. Mills, said. Nick Ciolfi, mechanical technology coordinator, worked to get advisory committee support. George Rowbottom, chairman, took it to the dean, Dr. Tony Knowles, who took it to the president; the Board of Governors was persuaded to provide the original seed money, he said.

College administration eased the financial burden to students by spreading the $930 cost over three years.

HAS HELPED

"The college has been fair; if it wasn't for that fact a lot of guys wouldn't be here," Mike Cipryk, first year manufacturing technology student, said.

Engineering of the network was done by Mr. Duczmal, a technologist, who was hired in 1985 to help faculty and students with the Piconet. He is a graduate of the computer technology program and has had several years of related industrial experience.

"We've had no bad comments yet," Mr. Duczmal said. "Students are quite happy with them."

From the instructional viewpoint, teachers can demand and receive higher standards of assignments. Students are taught to use spelling and style checkers so teachers can concentrate on the technical content of the work, Mr. Mills said.

Because the students get so many computer-related courses, when they graduate they are probably the most computer literate graduates in any comparable program in North America and the award recognizes that fact, he said.

Shades of green

No, the Martians have not landed in Welland!

Nor has a piece of green cheese fallen from the moon!

The explanation for the green field near the intersection of Niagara Street and Quaker Road is more down-to-earth — the green is dye used in connection with grass seeding.

Before Brian Chev-Olds car dealership of 915 Niagara St. could build their office which opened last February, two conditions had to be agreed upon, Dave D'Amico, general sales manager for the car dealership, said. They were: a berm (a privacy hill) built so residents living on Quaker Road would not be looking onto a parking lot; and the field behind the dealership grassed.

It was decided that seed would be less expensive than sod, he said. The seed was blown onto the tilled field in a clear mixture of fertilizer and mulch, to which green dye was added to make it easier to see which sections had already been sown.

Mr. D'Amico said the color may have an added plus: "Even if the grass seed doesn't catch, you still have your green. It'll look like grass."

GM donates new vehicles to college

General Motors of Canada donated two new cars to the college in September.

"General Motors very generously donated these cars," Nelson Long, training consultant with the technology and applied science division, said. "The cars are water-damaged, but they are fine for our program."

The cars are to be used in the motor vehicle mechanic apprenticeship program. "This allows us to keep up-to-date equipment; that's where the value is," Mr. Long said.

"We maintain contact with all foreign and domestic car companies so that we can arrange this kind of thing."

"The companies take out the radios and things we don't need," George Rowbottom, chairman of the manufacturing, mechanical construction division, said. "The cars come with small tires and only one seat, but all the electronics is in the front end so everything we need is there."

Over the past four years eight cars have been donated to the college. "We have a Honda Accord, two Honda Civics, a GMC truck, an Audi Fox, an Oldsmobile and two GM Cavaliers," Mr. Rowbottom said.

Harry Lewis, instructor, and a student look over one of the automobiles donated by General Motors of Canada for the motor vehicle apprenticeship program. The gift of the two automobiles enables students to have hands-on experience in their program, better equipping them for the workforce.
Photo by Margaret Bartlett

Tutoring available

Four valuable services operate out of the large office to the immediate right of the entrance to the library. The Women's Resource area, a Career Library, the Study skills program and Peer tutoring are an integral part of Niagara College.

Tutoring is free and available to students who need or want to upgrade their marks in any subject. Tutors are students who can "generally relate better to other students than teachers," Mary Farrar, information officer, said.

The Women's Resource area provides material on important issues for women today and the role they played in the past. Counselling services for women are also offered.

A brochure states the Career Library is "designed to assist students in their self-development and in their transition to the employment scene."

Information for any of these services can be obtained by contacting Bette Ferguson or Mrs. Farrar at 735-2211 ext. 212 and 382, respectively. Or drop in at the Career Centre in the library.

Student exchange deadline Nov. 2

The Ontario-Jiangsu Educational Exchange is accepting applications from students and faculty interested in study, research or teaching at post-secondary institutions in Ontario's twin province of Jiangsu, China.

Two people from Niagara, Joanne Willment, at education curriculum development, and Martin Pokol, a journalism student, took part in the exchange in 1987 and another, Mary Bondarchuk, Dental Hygiene department, will be going in 1988.

The exchange, which is funded and arranged by Ontario, is open to any student or faculty member at Ontario colleges and universities.

Participants can stay for varying amounts of time and are encouraged to decide how much time they would require to complete their program.

Jiangsu province is located in east-central China, the major cities of Nanjing, Wuxi, Suzhoa and Tangzhou have educational institutes interested in having Ontario students and faculty.

The application deadline is Nov. 2, and interested parties should contact Hugo Bessems, Student Liaison-International Student Adviser, at H24 in Hennepin Hall.

Entertainment

Crowds in Niagara-on-the-Lake watch Travolta, movie making

By HELEN DOAN
Staff Writer

The serene town of Niagara-on-the-Lake has an elusive quality these days. In fact, the town is as difficult to find as Brigadoon. Not only has its name been changed to Indian Springs, Nebraska, but other aspects of its Canadian identity have been usurped. J. C. Penny has invaded Kennedy's Drugstore. A white-marble statue of President Garfield stands next to the clock tower from which the Stars and Stripes flutters in the gentle autumn breeze. And store windows are celebrating the Fourth of July!

It is not treason, but the influx of cast and crew for Paramount Pictures' filming of a major motion picture, The Experts — a comedy starring John Travolta of Saturday Night Fever and Grease fame — that is responsible for the change.

The movie takes place primarily in the mythical small town of Indian Springs, Nebraska. Although it is the 1980s, the town has not changed since the 1950s, and two "experts" are called in to update the town. To give the appearance of the 1950s. necessary renovations have been made to Niagara-on-the-Lake stores — most names have been changed and windows redressed to suit the time period.

The Prince of Wales Hotel became the Indian Springs Museum

Confusion

"There has been some confusion about shops," Wendi Laski, Paramount Pictures publicist, said.

The remark understates the situation which has tourists asking to buy stamps in what is really a liquor store; demanding replacement for quarters lost in a telephone booth which is merely a prop; and wondering why a building with a sign over its door which reads Indian Springs Museum should sell Brights wine instead.

One storekeeper said most tourists find humor in the mix-ups, but there are a few who actually become annoyed.

Although some shop owners are bitter over the loss of business due to temporary street closings during filming, most agree that life has been more exciting since the movie people have come to town.

"Where else would I see a Hollywood movie being produced?" Margery Welsh, salesclerk for Brights House of Wine, said.

And where else could a person get a close-up glimpse of Mr. Travolta — hair slicked back, dressed in all-black garb, and looking very three-dimensional?

It is obvious the crowd finds him the star attraction. All heads are turned in his direction, all gazes glued to his presence. Whispers ripple through the crowd: "There he is!" or "His hair looks too black!" or "His face looks too pale — is he sick?"

Before long the crowd gravitates towards Mr. Travolta — cameras poised in hopes of snapping a close-up of the star. Craig Roberts, assistant to the locations manager, has the unending task of ensuring that no outsiders invade the filming area. Tactfully, exercising extreme patience, he and fellow workers manage to keep the crowd at bay.

Sometimes several takes are shot before a particular scene is acceptable and Mr. Travolta is free to leave. A grey van is waiting to whisk him to privacy. Lining the street are several 1950s style Fords, Chevs, or Buicks which are being used in the film. But it is the van which is the centre of attention.

"Wind down your window, John," one woman shouts as the van prepares to depart.

Obligingly, the window is rolled down and a wave tossed to the crowd. Then the van pulls away. With Mr. Travolta's exit, the crowd disperses. But it will re-emerge in time for the next shooting later in the day.

Shooting of the movie terminates Saturday. With the departure of the movie folks, Niagara-on-the-Lake will regain its Canadian identity as storefronts revert to familiar facades and the Maple Leaf once more reigns supreme.

Tourists will no longer be confused by baffling signs. And residents will have to look elsewhere for excitement.

Teacher's debut

Lady Luck may be lurking around any corner!

Last week Foster Zanutto, director of marketing and information services, met her in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

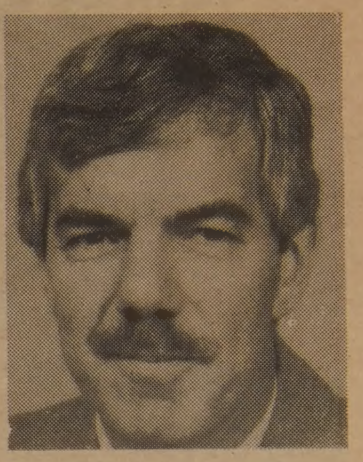
Foster, dressed in an official-looking three-piece suit, was marching towards the Prince of Wales hotel to grab a sandwich before returning to the Shaw when a boy came running from a house to ask: "How would you like to be in a movie?"

"I didn't believe him," Foster said. Then the boy explained that Paramount Pictures was filming The Experts and needed extras to play KGB agents. "I turned red at this point!"

Certainly not the unsual greeting one expects to hear from a stranger!

Of course Foster said yes and he was hustled into the wardrobe house to be measured.

The highlight of his acting career came when Foster answered his phone one night and heard: "This is Paramount Picture. We'll be shooting your scene tomorrow afternoon."



FOSTER ZANUTTO

He quickly learned that nothing is for certain in the movie industry.

Overnight the script was changed and suddenly fewer KGB adgents were needed. Foster was asked to play a resident, instead,

"It was a bit of a disappointment," he said.

Student's debut

By TORY EDWARDS
Staff Writer

The glamor and glitter of Hollywood effectively mask the dedication and true grit involved in the making of motion pictures.

On the set of The Experts, a movie being partially filmed in Niagara-on-the-Lake and starring John Travolta, I participated as an extra — it was an eye-opening experience.

The thought of movie and TV celebrities conducting business in the midst of local townspeople is exciting, if not at least unique. For this, and perhaps other reasons, hundreds of people of all sizes and ages showed up eager at the prospect of becoming involved in the production, directed by Dave Thomas of SCTV.

The position of an extra in a film might seem exciting to someone unaware of the procedure. Extras add background noise, movement and a sense of reality to a movie. Without them something would be missing — with them, they are barely noticed.

The extras' jobs are, more often than not, boring and ungratifying. They are relentlessly herded about and *spend much of their time waiting* in groups for the next shooting.

After all is said and done, the opportunity is an exciting one. Everyone has at least curiosity in what they might look like up on the big screen and, although the likelihood of rubbing elbows with the stars is slim, the excitement of participating in a motion picture is addictive. And who knows when and where the next overnight star sensation will be discovered?

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Entertainment

Niagara College presented a plaque and a dogwood tree to the Shaw Festival last month. Attending the ceremony were: (from left to right), Mrs. Dietsch, Mike Dietsch, Jacqueline Robarts, college president; Valerie Grabove, theatre program co-pordinator; Edith Ford, Drew Rabbetts, William Ford, chairman of the Board of Governors; Mrs. Nicholson, Mrs. Marino, and Jim Marino, Lord Mayor of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Photo by Elizabeth Finley

Friendships flourish between college, Shaw

It was a gala evening. The Niagara College Theatre Centre met in picturesque Niagara-on-the-Lake to celebrate its association with one of Canada's finest theatres, the Shaw Festival.

Program co-ordinator Valerie Grabove was host at a ceremony held Sept. 23 to present Shaw's artistic director Christopher Newton with a plaque and a dogwood tree.

"Thank you for the tree that will grow and flourish, and thank you for the relationship that will grow and flourish too," Mr. Newton said.

"We have always had a very co-operative relationship with Shaw," Ms. Grabove said. "We appreciate the example set by the Shaw Festival for the Theatre Centre," she told the audience which included Jacqueline P. Robarts, college president.

The tree has joined the multitude of trees that landscape the Shaw Festival Theatre, and according to both, represents a relationship worth preserving.

Following the ceremony, members of the centre and their invited guests attended the evening performance of Peter Pan.

Gifts given

The gifts serve to commemorate the longtime commitment of co-operation and friendship between the two theatre companies. Both theatres have served the other in times of need exchanging such things as production equipment. Members of the Shaw Festival have also acted as teachers and advisers within the Theatre Centre.

Oktoberfest pub at Lulu's tavern

Tickets are on sale at the SAC office this week for the Oktoberfest Pub at Lulu's in Kitchener on Saturday, Oct. 17.

Forty-five tickets are being sold. Tickets are $20 each and a $5 deposit is required. The rest is due on Oct. 9.

The bus will leave the college on Oct. 17 at 4 p.m., and return to Welland following the closing of the bar.

Students are reminded that there is a dress code in effect. Lulu's does not allow jeans in the bar.

Paintings depict Niagara's pollution

By DONALD WILSACK
Staff Writer

The polluted environment has inspired many people in this decade to try to inform the general public of the danger it poses to their health and to nature.

In an exhibition at the Hennepin Art Gallery that closed last Friday, Lincoln artist John Davies chose oil paint as his means of showing the public the beauty of the Niagara River and the industry that threatens its beauty.

Mr. Davies' past work has won numerous awards and has been displayed in group and solo exhibits. He has studied art at schools in Ontario and Newfoundland, including life drawing with Ken Cosgrove at Niagara College.

The theme for his most recent works is "Sufficient Flush Rate" which describes the ability of the Niagara River to flush itself, an ability that industry uses to justify the dumping off waste products.

Mr. Davies said he has been painting with oil for five years and feels it is the most direct and quickest way to make a statement.

The 10 wall-sized paintings conveyed a feeling of space that put the viewer in the area depicted.

One showed the panoramic view from the top of Queenston Heights of the lower river with Lake Ontario on the horizon. The size of the painting brought to life one of the most beautiful areas along the Niagara River free of the tall buildings and development that would otherwise ruin its naturalness.

He wanted his paintings to show how beautiful and horrible the river can be because of pollution. He said a lot of his work shows symbols of nature and technology.

"It bothers me a lot about the pollution. I try to make people think about the enviroment. Rather than feel helpless against industry, I try to make people aware."

Nature and industry were contrasted in a scene off the gorge in Grimsby which showed pillow-like clouds above the heavily forested greenery of the escarpment with brightly colored railroad cars along the bottom.

Winter themes dominated a few of the paintings and were characterized by ice floes floating down the river.

Mr. Davies said after the ice boom is released in Fort Erie in late spring, there is a contrast between the ice floes in the river and the budding of the trees.

Tall, shadowy trees were set against the snow white ice floes with the fresh, green vegetation on the opposite side adding vibrancy to one late spring scene.

Mr. Davies said the Niagara River is a good example of something natural being exploited by man; he cited a legal agreement to allow so much water over the Falls for tourists and maintaining certain water levels for Hydro's purposes.

"I want to get people away from complacency because there is a bigger picture to deal with," he said.

Mr. Davies hopes to encourage people to support the planet and, if they are not interested in the environment, to ask themselves, "Do I have a better place to live?"

Students rescued

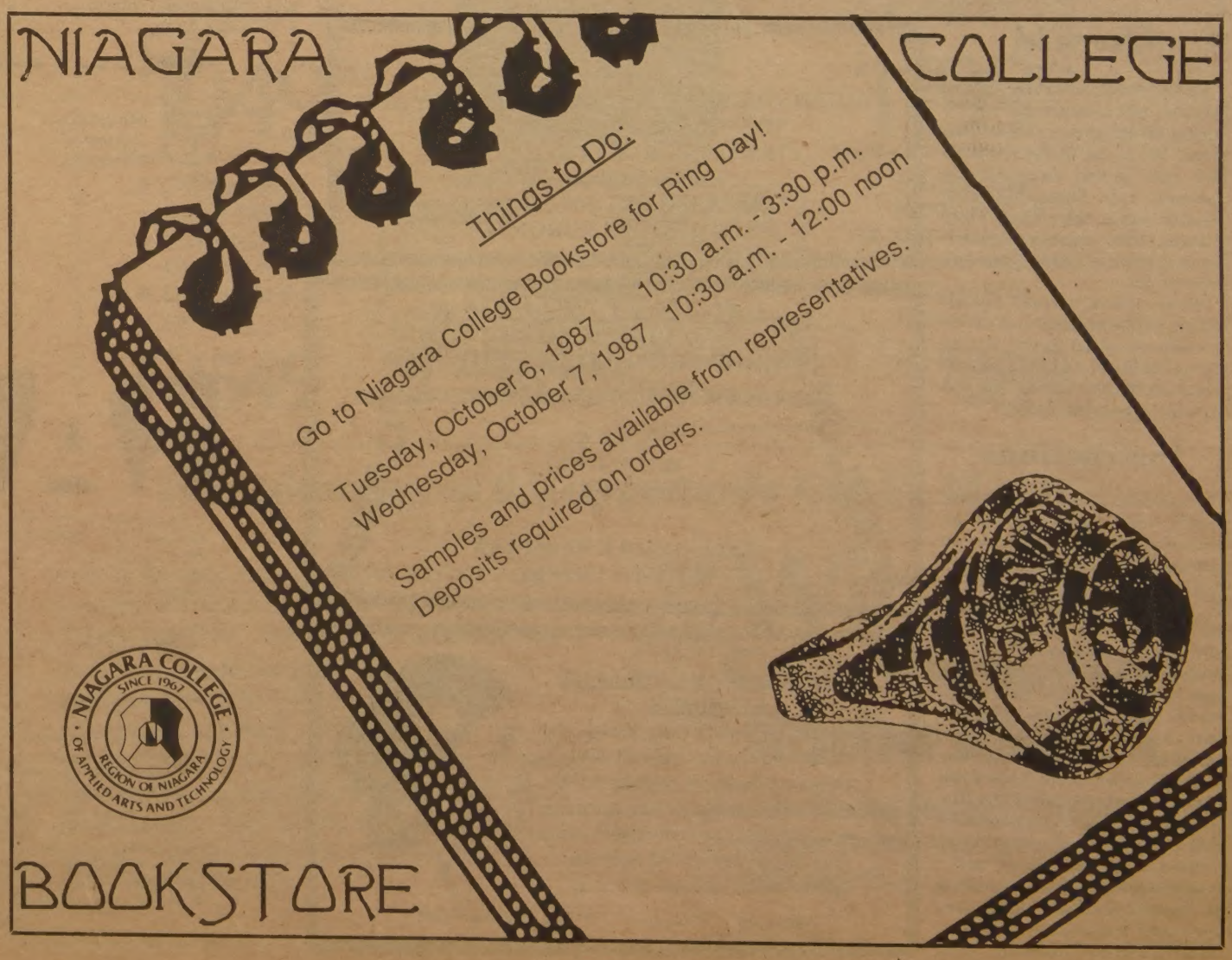
Four ambulance students were on the receiving end this time when they participated in a simulated airplane crash at Niagara District airport.

The students were the injured in an exercise Sept. 12 to give the airport's fire department practice in responding to a crash, and to give the students first-hand experience in what it is like to be a patient, acting co-ordinator Rick Chandler said.

Three of the students were placed in an old fuselage and the other under a wing where they waited for their rescuers to free their bodies and treat their wounds.

A police officer dropped a smoke bomb to simulate a fire.

"I've been in it myself," Mr. Chandler said. "It's scary even though you are not injured."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Cameramen Steve Payne and assistant Tom Tesolin were part of the RTV team busy in St. Catharines last weekend as they all worked to capture the spirit of festivities.
- Photo by Brian McLaughlin

Niagara College Television captures annual spirit

By BRIAN McLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer

As the early morning hour approached seven and the sun's rays crept over the college's horizon, the mobile television production crew completed a last few checks before heading for St. Catharines.

"It's fun getting up this early, isn't it?" joked Norm Brown, audio specialist, as he explained the exhaustive pre-event responsibilities the crew had undertaken in the week that passed.

"I couldn't sleep at all last night," said Bob Possion, manager of sets and props, as a lingering yawn revealed the effect of the early-hour assignment. "We've landed," said Norm Brown as the car pulled into a sparsely filled lot between St. Catharines City Hall and the Canada Post Office.

Checked

Scott Davis, script assistant, checked his attendance list ensuring all assigned crew had arrived. With the mobile production unit pulled alongside its partner unit from Maclean-Hunter cable television, Tony Adams, chief engineer, gave a few last-minute instructions to a crew of 25.

While some carried cables, others set up tripods and the remainder assisted in the setting up of the host station atop the Maclean-Hunter unit, the production site took shape.

Instructions

Meanwhile, inside the Niagara mobile unit, Bob received instruction from Mr. Adams on preparing a few last graphics. Sitting before a multi-colored display of vertical lines he called the final title stored in the computer's memory. "One minute and 20 seconds for the last graphic," Bob said as a static voice responded, "check one, two" over the intercom. Suddenly the screens came alive with previews of the past week of festival activities, rapidly flipping in motions of fast forward and reverse.

"Two is hooked up as well," confirmed Mr. Adams signalling to the unit that only one camera remained to be put into place. Bob reviewed a "montage" of an exhaustive reflection of previous activities. Consisting of only one minute and 20 seconds, this tape didn't give a just explanation of the 35 hours-plus the production crew labored to place an introduction before this day's event.

By 9:10 the site was completed. With equipment warmed up, all crew members awaited the arrival of an event that would challenge what, till then, had only been run through in their minds. The ETA was calculated for 11:30 a.m. With a sudden push of wind, two leaves rolled by indicating the lull before the onset of the crowd.

Explained

"Anything can go wrong," Paul Davoud, production chief, said as he explained why his crew had to be on their toes. Directly behind him Steve Payne, cameraman-one, completed the "white-balance" for his shoulder-mounted camera. "We've got hot cameramen," said Mr. Davoud as he expressed confidence in his second and third-year crew.

"Our signal is on air, this is a good step," Mr. Davoud said as he informed Fred Habermehl, dean of applied arts and health sciences, that both Maclean-Hunter and Armstrong cable had received transmission. Then as seven crew members assumed their positions before an array of TV screens, buttons, and levers within the mobile station, Gary Kleinsteuber, director, signalled a final "three, two, one."

And the live video-taping of the 1987 Niagara Grape and Wine Festival parade had begun.

A full presentation of the production can be viewed Thursday, Oct. 8, at 7:30 p.m. on both Maclean-Hunter Channel 10 and Armstrong Cable Channel 14.

Vandals strike again ERSN students hit

Some Niagara College students' bulletin boards were destroyed by vandals last week.

Educational Resources and Special Needs (ERSN) students were disappointed last Friday morning to find their bulletin boards had been destroyed and redesigned.

These projects the students must do before their field practice count for 20 per cent of their mark, and are part of their portfolio.

"The words and pictures (of two boards) had been damaged so as to have different meanings," Elvira Lucas, co-ordinator of ERSN, said.

"I felt badly for the students," Mary Ann Duerrstein, program assistant, said. "The boards were gross and obscene."

"I was upset because it had not even been marked yet," Sharon Healey, first-year student, said. "I was irritated the most. Everyone should show respect for everyone else's work."

"Our work represents the school and prospective employers are coming through all the time," Mrs. Healey said. "It is embarrassing."

The board she worked on by the library was torn down because it was ruined and could not be repaired. Hours of hard work were wasted.

"Our work was not even marked yet," Katherine McKinney and Cheryl Abma, first-year students, said. "We spent about 20 hours on it."

Their board by the SAC office was repaired after students changed the decor.

The vandalism was "childish, immature and gross," Mrs. Lucas said. "It really gives those coming into the college a bad reflection of our school."

Taste of fashion industry

Second year fashion arts students got a taste of the wholesale part of the fashion industry when they took part in a Fashion Market in Toronto last month.

For the 15 students, the Market was a practical learning experience that gave them an opportunity to discover how important wholesaling is to the designer and merchandiser. Organized by the Ontario Fashion Exhibitors, the Market was held at the King Edward Hotel from Sept. 13 to 16.

The students earned $60 during the four days working for sales agents at the Market where retailers do their fashion buying for the upcoming season.

The OFE is a non-profit association of some 300 sales agents representing 1,000 Canadian and import manufacturers in ladies' and children's apparel.

On Sept. 14, seven of the students represented fashion students at a colorful sod-turning ceremony to launch the start of construction of the $100 million OFE Mart in Toronto.

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Students should know if OHIP covers them

By BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer

Students who turn 21, or marry, must apply for their own independent OHIP coverage. Dawn Hall, college health nurse, says that as adults, students should "accept the responsibilities" and ensure themselves medical coverage.

Jim Giddings, supervisor of the St. Catharines OHIP office, recommends that students apply for coverage at least one month before their birthdays.

Lack of coverage can mean the student is responsible for any medical expenses incurred, Mr. Giddings said. Just one day's stay at St. Catharines General Hospital can cost $250. He advised students to insure themselves and "save an embarrassing situation."

TO ENSURE COVERAGE

Though processing time takes three months, Mr. Giddings said a "grace period" allows coverage to become retroactive to ensure coverage from the first month following a birthday.

OHIP has an "umbrella situation" that takes into consideration applications received late. He gives credit to the province's "liberal" attitude about health care as taking an understanding view towards ensuring adequate protection.

Mr. Giddings said income determines the amount of premiums. If annual income is $3,500 or less, there is no premium. However, you must apply for temporary premium assistance. Eligibility for assistance is based on your living in Ontario 12 months before applying.

STUDENTS QUALIFY

Most students qualify for assistance provided their income merits it, he said.

Mr. Giddings said students from other provinces are usually covered under their home province's medical plan. However, Mrs. Hall advised students to learn about their medical plan and how long it is effective.

Eva Rose, spokesperson for the health services office, said all foreign students have to possess proper coverage 'in advance" before registering.

Mr. Giddings said that in a case where a foreign student's immigration status changes from student visa to that of a political refugee, then assistance for medical coverage might be granted on humanitarian reasons.

Walkin' in the rain

Cloudy skies and rain have dominated the first month of school. Despite the unpleasant conditions, students have been able to get back and forth between buildings and make it to class on time. A little wet, maybe, but on time.
Photo by Elizabeth Finley

Not a 'club'

A Marketing Group has been formed this term by business students. The newly elected executives are trying to stagger the meeting times so all members will be able to attend. Some class schedules conflict causing some members to miss meetings to attend classes.

Dave Taylor, market research and consumer behavior instructor, is the faculty advisor for this group. They call themselves the Marketing Group because the name club is not serious enough and doesn't convey what they hope to achieve, Mr. Taylor said. Members intend to run the group as a business.

Bill Bosnich, second-year marketing management student, has been elected chairperson; Helen Lemieux, vice chairperson; Gail Anker, secretary; and Terry Hurst, finance student, treasurer.

Classified

Barbara Asher, second year accounting student, would like to thank those members of the staff and first and second year accounting students who attended the social in room ME109, Thursday, Sept. 23, 1987.

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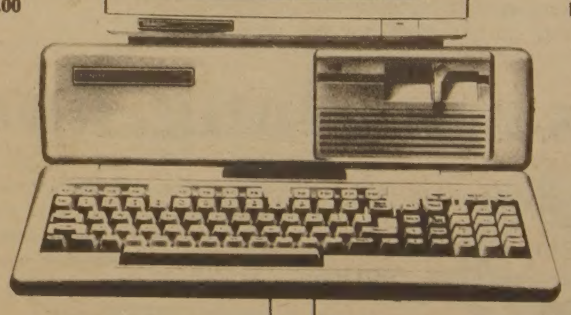

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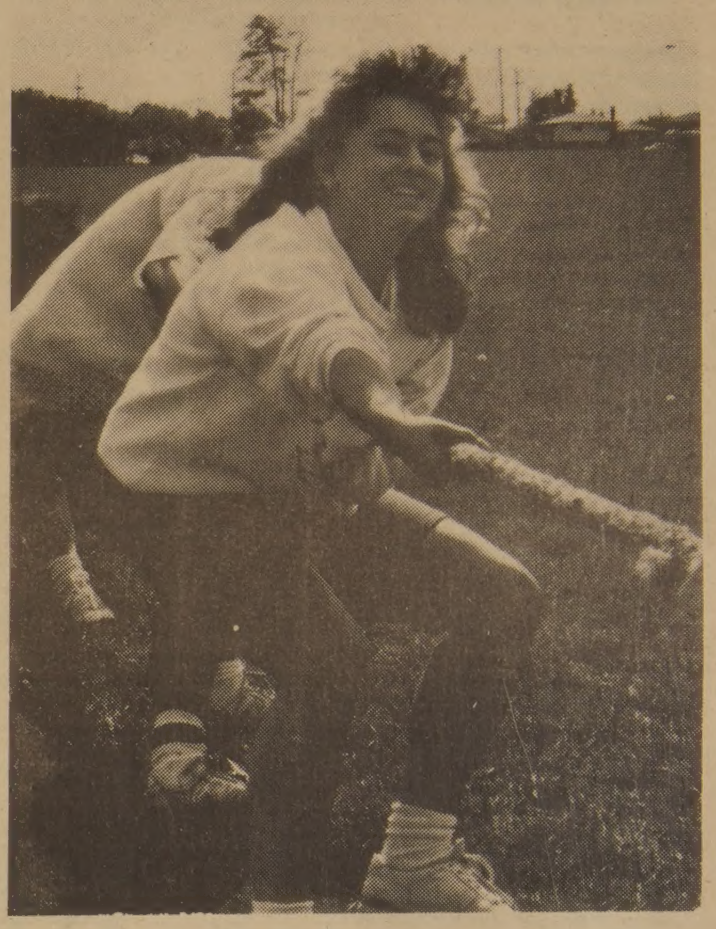
SPORTS

An enthusiastic participant dashes to fill his team's water bucket in an attempt to win this relay and lead his team to an overall victory.
Photo by Wendy Kudeba



Summoning all her physical strength, Debbie DePoli, a first-year law and security student, vigorously aids her team-mates during the tug-of-war competition at the first annual LASA olympics.
Photo by Brian McLaughlin

Not even rain can stop first LASA olympics

Law and security students certainly had fun even though the competition may have been stiff at an olympic day orgainized by the program co-ordinator last Thursday.

Neither rain on the previous Thursday, nor a late start on the day the games were finally held was enough to dampen the enthusiasm and spirits of the 70 or so students who took part.

Students from both years of the program were placed on 14-member teams and competed against one another in these events: soccer relay; frisbee football; tennis; aggregate long jump; candle and water relays and the ever popular tug-of-war.

In their program, the students are divided into sections and many do not have classes with one another. "Its intention was to get different sections of the students to get to know each other," Ron Shaidle, an instructor in the program, said.

A fair representation of the 14 teams turned out. Each team included at least two students from each section. The event was held purely for the fun of it and students were not required to participate.

OFFICIAL TORCH

Bruce Milligan, program coordinator, lit the official olympic torch — a coal oil lamp — and declared the games officially open.

Fred Habermehl, dean of applied arts and technology, originally lit the torch on Sept. 17, but after one hour of competition, the games were called on account of rain.

The students cheered to continue with the games as they sat in the mezzanine eating refreshments and waiting for the rain to stop. Instructors decided the playing field was too wet and therefore too dangerous to play on.

Mr. Milligan first came up with the idea late last fall, but bad weather prevented the games from taking place.

Officiating at the games were Judy Halaiko, Cathy Gillis, Angela North, Eugene Maltais, Bruce Milligan and Ron Shaidle, all instructors in the program. Their job was to referee, keep score and make sure all the students followed the rules of the games.

First, second and third place teams will receive ribbons.

Mr. Shaidle felt that "it was a successful day and the students seemed to enjoy themselves."

Niagara golfers fare well on tough Barrie course

The Niagara College golf team returned from a golf tournament at the Barrie Golf and Country Club placing a respectable sixth place on what coach Peter Rylander called a very tough course.

Niagara was led by Adrian Viney with a low score of 83. He was followed by Rob Veld, with 89, Peter Vegh with 92 and Dave Thomson with 97.

Gabe Rapini of Seneca College was the individual winner. He and Rob Llowes of Georgian College both shot 75, but Rapini was the eventual winner in a playoff.

The golf team is taking part in the Ontario Championships in Brockville this weekend.

Eleven teams participated in the tournament and Seneca College in Toronto placed first with a score of 341. Niagara's team of four combined with a score of 361.

Racers work long, hard for success

By BARBARA HORNING
Staff Writer

"Racing is in the blood. A dream. Something in the soul."

Ken Winfield, chief pit crew for Bruce Parkes, says racing is a dream and a goal many racers must work long hard days, and even years, to accomplish.

During the many warm summer nights, sunsets blazing colors of red, yellow and orange, many spectators travel to watch their favorite stock car racer perform his skilled driving.

The DIRT (Driver's Independent Race Tracks) circuit consists of about 18 tracts. Merrittville, Allanburg, and Humberstone, Port Colborne are the nearest tracks in the Niagarra peninsula. The closest American track is Ransomville, outside Lewiston, N.Y.

Each weekend many fans filled with anticipation watch their driver try to capture first position, but many of these fans do not know what goes on behind the race track.

First, there are many things to consider when entering the world of modified racing — the cost, sponsor's help, American competition, and loved one's support.

A frame, body work, cam shafts, crank shafts, pistons, heads, to name a few of the car's parts, may result in a $20,000 to $50,000 car. Many people watch their dreams fade, and goals shatter by these costs, but the sponsor can help the driver pursue his dream.

Sponsor

"You cannot race competitively without a sponsor," Paul Ashton, chief pit crew for Wayne Ashton, said.

Sponsors donate money to the racer at the beginning of the racing season. In return, emblems and slogans are painted on the car.

The media are important. Richard Petty, famous NASCAR driver, once explained: "The only reason that sponsors are here is because of the media coverage we were able to generate. If the media does not tell the people about it, then the sponsors are not getting their money's worth."

There was little media attention towards stock car racing in the DIRT circuit until about three years ago. Reporters can be seen at the tracks with note pads in hand, and cameras dangling from their necks every week now. The papers print the weekend's racing results for all the fans, and hopeful spectators to read.

This summer a new television series began on Channel 29, This Week in Dirt. It shows racing segments from the tracks in the DIRT circuit, and racers are interviewed, hoping for increased popularity.

Monday to Thursday, many drivers spend their spare time repairing cam shafts, engines, or setting up their cars for the weekend's fast racing action. Friday, Saturday and Sunday are busy with last-minute preparations before entering the track to munch down another warm hot dog, or cold french fries before the races begin. Time with loved ones is limited; therfore, reassurance, and support by loved ones are necessary to help a driver follow his dream.

Wild myths circulate of beer drinking, wild parties, and many women.

Women

After a driver emerges from a car that may be 200 degrees, covered in dirt, grime and sweat, what could be better than having someone put a cold, frosty beer in his hand? As for the women, the racers certainly have women admirers, but they are just fans. Nor are the wild parties as crazy as they seem. What could be better than sitting around a brightly shining bonfire on a warm summer's night, drinking with old and new friends, exchanging racing tales?

People often wonder about the dangers of stock car racing. Isn't working with chemicals dangerous? Or walking in a lightning storm? Or even driving through a city or town?

This summer, modified driver Jim Begolo rolled his car at Merrittville, only to have American driver Bill Terisi land on top of him in his "mighty mod." Jimmy and Bill both walked from the frightening accident with minor injuries.

The Grand Finale of the racing season is the Miller American 300, at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, N.Y. This year the Grand Finale is Thanksgiving weekend, Oct. 10, 11 and 12.

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SPORTS

New team

Sarkis takes on challenge

By RANDY CONLON
Staff Writer

Heading into the first volleyball season since 1977, Niagara College men's coach Ray Sarkis doesn't expect to walk away with a championship, but he does expect 100 per cent commitment from his players.

After the demise of men's basketball at the end of last season, Ray is taking on a difficult task in trying to develop a strong men's volleyball program at Niagara.

He asks anyone interested to attend a meeting in the gym Oct. 5. "Anyone interested in playing, whether you've played before or not, don't be discouraged to try out for the team," he said.

Loves game

Ray, who works at the school's receiving department, played on Niagara's last volleyball team in 1977. So he knows what it takes to develop a strong program.

"It all relates back to the coaching," he said. "Most high school coaches coach because they have to, not because they want to. I want to, just for my love of the game."

Ray started the volleyball program at Centennial High School

RAY SARKIS

nine years ago. Since then he has taken several of his teams to the provincial tournament, the greatest honor in high school athletics.

There should be no doubt in anyone's mind that Ray has what it takes to coach the team. He was named Welland Sports Council Coach of the Year for 1986, in honor of his work at Centennial. He has obtained national coaching levels one and two and is now working on his level three.

Athletic co-ordinator Peter Rylander doesn't have any doubts about Ray's capabilities. "He does a good job, I spoke to the people at Centennial and I know Ray quite well. He's very dedicated."

Mr. Rylander feels it is an added convenience to have Ray working at the school. "We've had difficulties in the past with outside coaches, but with Ray working here it is easy for me to communicate with him as well as for the players."

Ray feels strongly about the program at the school, and is hoping his players will feel as strongly as he does.

Being in the Tier II league, Ray expects to be able to compete with any team in the league.

"I know there will be a lot of inexperience, but with hard work from everyone we should do just fine," he said.

He wants to play plenty of exhibition games against good Tier I teams, and possibly some schools from the states. "The only way to learn and improve is to play good teams."

Tier II

Because of the way the Tier II schedule is organized, Ray feels it will be easier for a student to commit himself to volleyball than it was for basketball.

"We practise three nights a week, and all of our games are on weekends. Therefore the students shouldn't miss any classes and we can have total commitment," he said.

He is doing his part in trying to develop a strong volleyball program. He is planning to have a high school volleyball tournament at the college. That way he can recruit players at a young age and thus develop Niagara College into a strong force in men's volleyball.

First season in 10 years

After a 10-year hiatus at Niagara College, volleyball is returning as the main focus of this year's men's and women's varsity sports program.

Judy Halaiko, who will be coaching the women's volleyball team, said the college sports department made the move to volleyball because interest in basketball seemed to be dwindling.

"There were problems with the basketbakll team — getting girls to come out and stay interested," Judy said.

In speaking with other colleges, Judy found that almost all have volleyball programs and it is popular in getting people to participate.

The new team will compete in Tier II competition. This is the lower of the two competitive tiers, but it is necessary to find out how well the team will work together and how experienced the players are. "I have no idea of the calibre of team I'll get until I see who comes to try out," said Judy.

Three exhibition games will be played before Christmas. This gives the team "game experience and gives us (the team players and coaches) a chance to get a look at the other teams."

One nice thing is that the finals are going to be held at the college, Judy said. The main concern is just to see if a program can get started if there is enough interest.

Any full-time student who is interested in trying out for the team is asked to attend a meeting in the gym at 5 p.m. Oct. 5.

Veterans hungry; Bassi hopeful

By ROB STROHM
Staff Writer

With a positive attitude surrounding the veterans returning to the Niagara Knights and if the talented players expected to show, do, coach Fred Bassi thinks he could have a potential powerhouse for the upcoming hockey season.

With a blend of good goaltending and speed, the Niagara Knights hockey club could be a team to be reckoned with. "If our goaltending stands, we will go right at other teams and use more break-outs; just make it exciting and overall, quicker," Mr. Bassi said.

In total, 63 players signed up for the hockey team and Mr. Bassi expected about 60 to show up for the first practice last Monday night. He has high hopes for newcomers to the team and a commitment from them. Blake Sawyer, a forward with St. Catharines Falcons last year, Todd Sneider, a forward from the Welland Cougars and Jim Darling, a defenceman, also from the St. Catharines Falcons, are just a few of the names Mr. Bassi mentioned as hopeful talent for this year's squad.

Because the veterans had a taste of championship competition last year, they seem to have a hunger for a successful season. "They have a good attitude and that could be a major factor in our season."

With three exhibition games and six practices to decide who will be on his squad, Mr. Bassi said he should have a good idea of what he has to work with. Although he would like to carry the standard 10 forwards, five defencemen and two goalies, he can't be sure who will make the commitment so he might carry extras. "Right now I don't know the personality of all the players or who will be back so I might have to carry extras."

The schedule's set-up favors the Knights as they have three of their first four games at their home rink in Welland. The league, consisting of Penn State, Conestoga, Buffalo State and Erie Community, should be a competitive and exciting one. With the addition of Conestoga and its large ice surface to the league, it will be interesting to see how the Americans adjust to the larger dimensioned rink.

The first exhibition game for the Knights is Oct. 7 against Conestoga in Kitchener. The first exhibition game at home is Oct. 17 against Buffalo State at 8 p.m. at the Welland Arena.

With a new Canadian rival in Conestoga, and the other teams sure to be strong, hockey fans at Niagara College can look forward to an exciting and interesting season.

Fitness participant finds test useful

By RANDY CONLON
Staff Writer

I hardly knew what to expect walking over to the gym. Here I was about to find out how fit, or unfit, I am. I already knew that, or so I thought.

I'm young and fit: I shouldn't have anything to worry about. Time for a fat caliper test. How can they do a fat caliper test on me? I don't have an ounce of fat on me.

Wrong. Although I lost more than 15 pounds this past summer, I'm still five pounds over my ideal body weight. I guess I was wrong when I thought I was losing too much weight.

Now on to the cardiorespiratory endurance test. The what? They're going to tell me how efficiently my body takes in oxygen and how well my body circulates that oxygen throughout my blood and muscle systems.

I guess I don't know everything about my physical fitness. But I was pleasantly surprised when I was told that only about five percent of people my age have better cardiorespiratory endurance than I do.

Now is the time for the real laughter. My musclar endurance. I already knew that I wasn't very strong, and this time I was right. The final results aren't really very important, are they?

The flexability test! Heck, I'm lucky if I can touch my toes. I quess I was a little surprised at the results: not flexible by any means, but a little more flexible than I thought. Guys aren't supposed to be flexible anyway, right?

When the test was over, and all the results were sitting in front of me, I can say that the test was worth taking. I found out things that everyone should know about their bodies.

If you wish to find out about yourself, contact Judy Halaiko at the gym. The tests are open to the public at a cost of $15, and the cost to students is only $10. Don't be shy; go ahead and try it out.

New tissue dispensers in washrooms

Niagara College is making improvements from the bottom up!

Those pieces of toilet tissue which leap out of their dispensers to form mountains on the floors of washroom cubicles will soon be a thing of the past.

Ed Krikorian, operations supervisor, said about 85 percent of the Welland campus washrooms already have new dispensers which hold rolls of paper rather than interlocking tissue.

He said the Hennepin, Black Walnut, Mackenzie, Voyageur, Merritt and part of Tecumseh buildings already have the new dispensers and that by the end of the school year the remaining buildings will have them.

"We're saving money in the long run. There's not the wastage," he said.

Flexo Products of Niagara Falls is supplying the new dispensers free of charge as long as the college buys Flexo's paper, he said. In the past, Marshall Paper has supplied the paper.

Mr. Krikorian said after the Welland campus is changed over, the St. Catharines campus and the satellite buildings will be done.

What further changes can we expect?

"We'll be changing the paper towel dispensers after this," Mr. Krikorian said.

Does this mean we might also see soap dispensers that work?

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